(i) India's economic reforms and (ii) enactment of the Constitution (74th) Amendment Act. Keeping in view the need to strengthen infrastructure in urban ares which are becoming centres of investment and growth and to promote decentralisation reforms with the objective of taking power to the people, certain modifications to the guidelines of the IDSMT Scheme which has been in operation from 6th Plan have been approved by the Cabinet on 18.7.95. The important among these changes are:—

1. Exending the coverage of IDSMT Scheme to towns with a population upto 5 lakhs.

2. New financing pattern as follows:—

Category of Town (Population)	Project cost	Central Assistance (Grant) Maximum	State Share (Grant)	HUDCO loan/ other financial institutions/ other sources
		(Rupees in lakhs)		
A (Less than 20000)	100	48	32	20 (20%)
B (20000-50000)	200	90	60	50 (25%)
C (50000-100000)	350	150	100	100 (29%)
D (1—3 Lakhs)	550	210	140	200 (36%)
E (3—5 Lakhs)	750	270	180	300 (40%)

The projects costs indicated above are based on a ""Minimum Project Cost" concept, implying that the costs of projects for a town in a particular category shall be at least the amount indicated for that category in the column ""Project Cost".

3. Enabling the selected cities and towns to take up a judicious mix of remunerative, cost recovery-based and non-remunerative projects, keeping the overall urban and regional development goals in view.

4. A rigorous planning process consisting of the preparation of state urban development strategy paper, city/town investment plans and DMT project reports to implement such plans. A package of municipal reforms in line with the 74th Amendment Act including creation of revolving fund at the municipal level to promote development of infrastructure on a continuing basis.

Fishing Licences to MNCs

*333. SHRI JOYANTA ROY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Government have given licences to multi-national companies to fish in the coastal areas of the country;

(b) if so, the names thereof and other details as on the 1st July (State-wise);

(c) whether the activities of such companies have prejudiced the interests of the indigenous fishermen;

(d) whether Government propose to call a meeting of the Chief Ministers of the affected States; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) The question do not arise.

Committee on Union carbide Gas Tragedy

*334. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Committee pertaining to Union Carbide Gas Tragedy has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Justice Kasliwal;

(b) if so, the terms of reference and composition of the committee;